



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Katsuo Ito) Art Unit: 3679
Serial No.: 09/828567)
Filed: April 9, 2001) Examiner: J. Sciffman
IMPROVED BOARD ANCHOR)

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12-31-a

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1,3.

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Please add new claims 4-7 as follows:

DEC 18 2002

Sub 01 4. An improved board anchor comprising:

GROUP 3600

a threaded shaft having a longitudinal axis;

a freely rotating anchor section attached to the screw shaft, said anchor section comprising a channel shaped member having spaced apart, downwardly extending flange portions, each flange portion having a shaped opening formed therein;

a threaded attachment ring having first and second protrusions formed on the perimeter of said attachment ring, said protrusions adapted to engage the corresponding opening formed on said anchor section, said threaded shaft being threadably coupled to said attachment ring, said attachment ring protrusions, and said shaped openings enabling said threaded shaft to be initially positioned substantially parallel to